



Chairperson Vice-Chair

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, October 29, 2009

The meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, October 29, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien in Detroit, Michigan.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Ronald L. Griffin
Mohamed Okdie
Jerome Warfield
Toney Stewart (**ABS**)
Adela Rivera

Department Personnel Present

AC Ralph Godbee
DC Herbert Moreland
Cmdr. Todd Bettison
Insp. Darryl Brown
Insp. Stephen Carlin
Lt. Cynthia Williams
Lt. Darwin Roche
Cmdr. Gail Wilson-Turner
Sgt. Michael Dailey
Sgt. Hilton Kincaid
P.O. Sophia Nelms
P.O. Lucretia Wright
P.O. George Chester

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Celia Banks-Washington, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator
Dalph Watson, Director of Police Personnel
Lt. Daniel Allen
Leslie J. Griffin, Community Affairs Coordinator
P.O. Kent Cooper

OTHERS PRESENT

Anthony Dorsey III
Craig Jonon
Christine Davis

Ron Scott
Edward Moore
Jerry Parker

Marc Deldin
Tijuana Morris

RECORDERS

PO Terence Bell
Robert Brown

Lisa Little

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Griffin called the meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Thursday, October 29, 2009**

MOTION: Comm. Rivera made the motion to approve the Agenda.

SECOND: Comm. Warfield seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Thursday, October 15, 2009**

MOTION: Comm. Rivera made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: Comm. Warfield seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

- **Thursday, October 22, 2009**

MOTION: Comm. Rivera made the motion to approve the Minutes.

SECOND: Comm. Warfield seconded the motion.

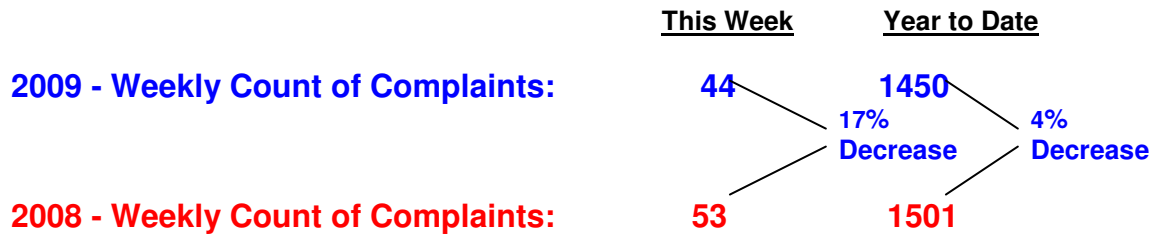
VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

4. BOPC OFFICER'S REPORT

1. CHAIRPERSON

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED



- The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of 1,155 active investigations, of which 920 of those are for 2009. A total of 1,557 investigations have been closed since January 1, 2009.

TOTAL WEEKLY ALLEGATIONS & COMMAND

Total	COMMAND	ALLEGATIONS									Total
CCR	W/E 10/29/09	Arrest	Demeanor	Force	Harassment	Bias	Procedure	Property	Search	Service	Allegations
5	EASTERN		2	2			2			1	7
5	NORTHEASTERN		4	1			2			2	9
2	SOUTHWESTERN		2				2				4
5	COMMUNICATIONS		5							1	6
1	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE									1	1
3	GANG ENFORCEMENT		2	1			2				5
1	SEX CRIMES		1								1
1	TRAFFIC		1								1
13	UNKNOWN		3	1		1	7	2		4	18
2	6TH PRECINCT			1			2			1	4
2	8TH PRECINCT		2			1					3
1	10TH PRECINCT						1				1
3	12TH PRECINCT		3	1			2				6
44			25	7		1	1	20	2	10	66

5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

October 29, 2009

Volume 5, Issue 44

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners



Special Points of Interest:

• Next meeting:

Thursday, November 5, 2009

@ 3:00 P.M.

Detroit Police Department
1300 Beaubien #328
Detroit, Michigan 48226

“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Domestic Violence

On October 19, 2009, officers of the Eighth Precinct responded to Sinai-Grace Hospital on an “Assault & Battery” run and a subject was arrested. As a result of the investigation conducted by members of Domestic Violence, the subject was charged with “Assault with Intent to do Great Bodily Harm, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (Felony Assault), Felony Firearm 2nd, and Domestic Violence.”

Inside this issue:

Narcotics/Gang Enforcement 1

Domestic Violence 1

Central District 2

Sixth Precinct 2

Southwestern District 2

Northeastern District 2

Eastern District 2

Engaging the Community

Citizens wishing to make a police report may do so at the District/Precinct stations in the city of Detroit. Citizens may also utilize the following District Mini/Sub-Stations to make reports.

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Hours of Operation</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
	1300 Beaubien	24 Hours	596-5100
	20500 Conant	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	892-5456
	7737 Kercheval	* 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.	628-2121
	19810 Grand River	* 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.	870-0649
	13530 Lesure	8 a.m. to 11 p.m.	596-5300
	2575 S. Schaefer	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	297-9423
	20 Atwater	24 Hours	237-2850
	13206 E. Jefferson	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	821-5851
	22101 Moross (St. John Hospital)	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	343-7506
	14700 Mack	* 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.	852-4046

* Mini-Stations– Monday –Friday

October 29, 2009

Police / Community Intervention

Page 1

Sixth Precinct

On October 21, 2009, while on patrol in the 20000 block of Plymouth, officers of the Sixth Precinct were notified of a "Carjacking" that had just occurred. As a result of their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Armed Robbery, Carjacking, and Felony Firearm."



Southwestern District

On October 21, 2009, officers of the Southwestern District responded to the 1000 block of Lane on a "Breaking & Entering of a Business." Due to the officers' quick response and investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Breaking & Entering, Felon in Possession, Felony Firearm, and Habitual 4th." A weapon was confiscated and stolen property was recovered.



Northeastern District

On October 20, 2009, officers of the Northeastern District responded to the 3000 block of Parker on a "Person with a Weapon." Subsequent to their investigation, a subject was arrested and charged with "Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, Felon in Possession, Felony Firearm, and Habitual 3rd." A weapon was recovered.

Eastern District

On October 21, 2009, officers of the Eastern District responded to the area of East Jefferson and Dickerson on an "Accident/Injuries Involving a School Bus." Subsequent to their investigation, the driver of one of the vehicles who was involved in the accident, was wanted on previous charges was arrested.



PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION FROM GANG SQUAD

SEE ATTACHMENT

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. APPEAL HEARINGS:
IVAN MIDLAM
REGINALD BELL**

SEE ATTACHMENT

7. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT AN INCREASE IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2009
JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)**

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: Comm. Rivera seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. REQUEST TO ACCEPT AN AWARD FROM THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND
DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FOR THE "WE'RE HERE AND WE CARE
PROGRAM (WHWCP)"**

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: Comm. Rivera seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

2. REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT AN INCREASE IN THE SAFE COMMUNITIES: UNDERAGE DRINKING GRANT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2009/2010

MOTION: Comm. Okdie made the motion to approve the Grant.

SECOND: Comm. Rivera seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 5, 2009
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien Rm. 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

10. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

SEE ATTACHMENT

ATTACHMENTS

Board of Police Commissioners Meeting
October 29, 2009
3:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to call this meeting to order of the Board of Police Commissioners for October 29th 2009. With me today we have Commissioner Rivera and Commissioner Warfield and myself, Commissioner Okdie. I am the Vice-Chair. Commissioner Griffin shall be here shortly, and I don't think Commissioner Stewart will be with us today. And we have also filling in for the Chief Assistant Chief Godbee. Mr. Secretary, can you introduce your

staff, please? Mr. Dante' Goss, Executive Director and secretary, can you please introduce your staff?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: We have Arnold Sheard, Chief Investigator, Dalph Watson, Personnel Director, Police Officer Robert Gibson, Robert Brown, Ms. Lisa Little, Police Officer Kent Cooper, and Celia Washington will be here shortly.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Is Mr. Brown the Executive Office Manager for the Board? Has that been changed, yet, or we're working on his title to be what?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: We're still waiting for the Personnel of the City to give us a new designation. They haven't given us one yet.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Can we please expedite that process in any way we can.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: Yes, sir. We just had a meeting about that.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Okay. And we want to go through the approval of the agenda.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: So moved.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Second.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: It's been moved and seconded.
Any discussion?

(No discussion or concerns were raised.)

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: All those opposed say nay.
Motion carries.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

(October 29th, 2009 Agenda is approved.)

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: I will transfer the rest of the agenda on to Mr. Commissioner Griffin.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: You can continue, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: No, you do it. I already messed up once.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Where are we?

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: We just approved the agenda.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay. Request for approval of the minutes, please.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: So moved.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Support.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

(October 15th, 2009 minutes are approved.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: We have the approval of two sets of minutes. This is for the approval of the October 22nd, 2009 minutes. Request for approval of the minutes, please.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: So moved.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Support.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

(October 22nd, 2009 minutes are approved.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Secretary's Report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: Commissioners, two weeks ago you asked about a report from the Fire Department. They are scheduled for November 5th to present to the Board.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let's make it clear for the record and for the community the reason that we're having that particular presentation and report. This is a concern that Commissioner Rivera raised several weeks ago, I guess almost several months ago now. It goes to the point of an individual found unconscious on the streets of Detroit and there was no process to identify the person. And the question came who has the responsibility once identification is made known and whether that was EMS, the Fire Department or DPD. We're going to bring

some closure to that to find out exactly what the process is and what action should be taken. So that is what we will be dealing with on the meeting of November 5th. Thank you.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: The weekly count of complaints were 44, year-to-date, 1,450. The weekly count of complaints from 2008 was 53, year-to-date, 1,501. That's a decrease of 3 percent from last year. The Office of the Chief Investigator has a total of 1,155 active investigations, of which 920 are from 2009. A total of 1,557 investigations have been closed since January 1st, 2009. This concludes the Secretary's Report.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Any questions?

(No questions were raised.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you. Assistant Chief, we have a presentation today.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, sir. Inspector Darrell Brown, Gang Enforcement. I will turn it over to Inspector Brown for the presentation we have for the department.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Just before you start, Lieutenant Brown. Those in the audience, we will not wait until our normal point in the agenda to allow the community to come forward. Those who have questions to be asked of the Gang Squad, questions that you have raised before, Mr. Robert Brown, our Office Administrator, will have 3 by 5 cards. You can put those

questions on the cards and the Commissioners will read them and ask the questions for you, and raise your hand, please. Perhaps you have issues you brought with you from previous meetings. You do not have to wait until the presentation is over. Thank you. Go ahead, sir.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Thank you, Board. I'm Inspector Brown from the Detroit Police Gang Enforcement, presenting today on the role of Gang Enforcement's responsibilities in the Detroit Police Department.

Gang Enforcement was established in 1975 to combat youth crime and gang violence. Since that time, our role has changed. It has evolved greatly as far as our responsibility goes to the City of Detroit. We're deployed into targeted areas that show high patterns of youth crime and gang violence, as well as robberies, shootings, whether it is nonfatal or fatal shootings, and homicides.

In 2009, year-to-date, we arrested over a 1,014 persons for various misdemeanors and felonies and detained over 764 juveniles. That would be our curfew numbers. Curfew numbers are misdemeanors detainment and felony detainment as far as juveniles are concerned.

These are some of the projects we've been involved in 2009. Some of our initiatives to support the City's reduction as far as crime are concerned. I'll talk real quickly about Safe

Passage. It was the Chief's initiative with Safe Passage to and from school. We've been actively participating in that endeavor. We're still chair as far as the sustainability of those efforts are concerned, and year-to-date, we had probably about 11 significant arrests. Whether it is a CCW, caring a concealed weapon in or around the school, or violation of a controlled substance, a student found in the campus or around the campus with some drugs. Safe passage is an ongoing venture. Actually, we conducted that endeavor five days a week since 2009.

This is just our motto here. "When the citizens need assistance they dial 911. When the police need assistance they call the Gang Squad." We're part of the Mobile Strike Force. We support all the endeavors as far as the districts or other bureaus are concerned. We work many details, and since basically we have a large number of personnel, we get tasked with a lot of responsibilities, whether it is football games, or something that we assist sex crimes in for looking for a subject, or homicides. We get tasked with a lot of different details being in the Gang Squad. They only give us like five slides. I had 15, but they cut it down real quickly. Any questions?

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: How many officers do you have on the Gang Squad?

INSPECTOR BROWN: I have 70 dedicated police officers at Gang Enforcement.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: What year was the Gang Squad created?

INSPECTOR BROWN: 1975.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: What was it that instigated the creation of the Gang Squad other than the obvious?

INSPECTOR BROWN: Well, I believe at that time it was completely obvious, sir. I believe it was the Bishops, the Chains, the Red Devils, it was all of the Eastside Gangs that were coming up at that time. So the City wanted to get ahead of it instead of behind the problem, and they created the Youth Section in order to combat some of that violence.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: And that was in 1975?

INSPECTOR BROWN: Correct.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: How many officers were on the Gang Squad in 1975?

INSPECTOR BROWN: In excess, our numbers were around 110. So I'm going to say, in excess, probably over a hundred officers at that time.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So it's decreased.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Oh, absolutely.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Has gang activity decreased proportionately to the number of officers that were on the Gang Squad?

INSPECTOR BROWN: No. No, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Has gang incidents increased since the decrease of the Gang Enforcement Squad?

INSPECTOR BROWN: No, right now the numbers are showing that gang violence or shootings represent about 8 percent of the overall shootings whether they are fatal or nonfatal. So they're only representing about 8 percent of all actual crime.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Any idea of what it was in 1975?

INSPECTOR BROWN: No, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: 1985?

INSPECTOR BROWN: No, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: 1995?

INSPECTOR BROWN: No, sir. I can probably--

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So we don't know if it went up or down?

INSPECTOR BROWN: Gang violence itself?

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Yeah, you said it was 8 percent. I want to know what that percentage was and whether it went up or down since 1975.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Commissioner Okdie, we're just not prepared to talk about those numbers that in depth and to that kind of a drill down--

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: It is not a drill down. It is a legitimate question, Chief.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Sir, I was speaking.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Point of order.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: It is indeed the Board of Police Commissioners meeting and I was asking a question and in fact--

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: I was giving verification on behalf of the Chief.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Point of order right now. Assistant Chief Godbee.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, sir.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let the question be asked and once the question is asked then you can respond. In your response we're going to hear you until the end and then we'll respond. I will have none of that as long as I sit in this chair.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: What is the question, sir?

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: There is a point to the question. The point is that for the last several months, as I go around the City, I am asked about the increase and decrease in

crime from the citizens on a regular basis, and I want to know why, if there is an increase or decrease specifically in the Gang Squad because I am told by civilians--and there's a lot of criticism about the police department. And as a Commissioner, and everybody knows that I am a Commissioner, I get asked these questions. So I'm entitled to some answers and that's why I'm asking the questions. If you want to respond, that's perfectly fine, Chief Godbee.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, sir. On behalf of the Chief, as I was indicating before, the numbers that you're requesting to that level of a drill down we don't have today. However, given an opportunity to come back before this Board, we can provide those numbers. We don't have 20 year numbers. We don't have 10 year numbers, but what we do have are numbers relative to this year's year-to-date crime compared to last year and probably we can talk about the past 2-3 years. And then significantly, if given the opportunity, I would like Inspector Brown to talk about the Chief's increase in the numbers of the Gang Squad since he has been in office since July 6th.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: You do realize that people want more police on the streets?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: And that's a commitment the Chief has made through the Gang Squad and also if he can explain the Mobile Strike Force aspect of how the duties and

tasks of Gang Squad have been combined with Traffic Enforcement and Tactical mobile.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: All I'm saying to you is that civilians are extremely concerned about crime and crime rates and how many police are on the streets. And I have to tell you Chief, I defend the police department, and in order for me to do that, I need to know and I need to ask questions. I don't think these are difficult questions. And Mr. Chair, I'll let it go at this point.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Those are legitimate questions. This is what this is all about. This is the role of the Commission. Let's do this cause I'm going to ask more questions. Assistant Chief Godbee, I don't mind a longer presentation. So if there are some things that you think are critical or important--I understand the issue of brevity and we appreciate that. I don't have a problem with you coming back with additional information. I think the historical data is extremely important and the absence of some of this information in your presentation is what drives a lot of these questions. I would ask, for the record, for the Gang Squad to come back with some historical data, as much as you can gather.

And so with that set backup, I do have some more questions and you may or may not be able to answer them given that you will be back. Also talking about the historical data,

where do we compare, where does Detroit compare with other major urban areas and other gang squads or similar operations, A, and B, with respect to their impact on crime, for example, it's almost led today to what's going on in Los Angeles and their gangs. The gang violence in Chicago has been well chronicled of late and other cities. Where do we track with that, and do we know our strength in numbers percentage wise given the size of our police force and the size of our city? Do we have data like that? Can we talk about that today or is that something that you would come back again and talk about?

INSPECTOR BROWN: I will return to the Board with that information.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: That's key. I want to know about that and then, also, the citizens, this is what this Board is about, have raised issues with respect to the Gang Squad and violation of citizens' rights. So I wanted to talk about that and also, you've been accused of doing some forms of profiling, if you will, so I want you to address how you go about operating. And the third part is: Are you ever involved in any type of operation that would make you not identify yourself as Gang Squad? So that's three questions: violation of citizens' rights, profiling, and are you ever involved in any type of operation that you are not identified as Gang squad?

INSPECTOR BROWN: I'll start with the latter. We are identified by our dress, by our uniform attire, and badges displayed around our necks visibly. So that there is not Gang Squad whatsoever.

Profiling issues. Absolutely profiling is an illegal act, but we're basically dispatched in the areas that are considered to be our most egregious areas within the City of Detroit. Based on the data or crime analysis that is compiled, we're sent into the areas that have the highest numbers of shootings, homicides, and robberies. So if we're profiling, or if we're alleged to be profiling, we're just looking for individuals in order to stop that particular threat and make that neighborhood safer as far as the citizens are concerned.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let me just do this just for a moment or two and y'all forgive me for asking these questions. I will never play the devil's advocate since I'm a man of God. So I can't advocate the devil, but I can speak on behalf of the community. Let's just talk about profiling a little more and then we have more questions from the Commissioners. How do you explain the difference between what we believe is profiling verses when you have good solid data, good solid police work information, statistical data of high profile crime areas, etcetera. What's the difference between you moving in and dealing with what you've been told and the data suggests is

going on in that area, or you simply see four or five young men looking like their going to be in trouble.

INSPECTOR BROWN: That would be considered profiling just to see four or five young men looking as though they're going to commit trouble. Our information is a little more exact than that. We receive descriptions. We receive information from citizens. We're getting the entail. We receive surveillance. So we're actually a little more in depth because we have this information, and because we know this area is being driven by high numbers of crime. So we're not selecting individuals based on the fact of four individuals being in this particular location. It's based on several other inputs as well.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay, very good. One more question and then Commissioner Okdie has a question and Commissioner Rivera has a question. How would you, and this is going to make you think a little bit, Inspector. You just recently got promoted. So the higher up you go, the more involved these questions will become. That was just a little bit of humor. How would you characterize the culture of the Gang Squad? What is the mentality? What's the mind set of an officer that's part of the Gang Squad.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Oh, absolutely. I would characterize those guys as dedicated and committed police

officers to the City of Detroit. I would say that they understand the mission, the objective, and the goals. I would even go further to say that they actually understand that without a safe community, without the citizens understanding that we need a safe community, we need a community free of crime or free of the fear of crime that is a difficult challenge as far as where we want to be probably be in the future. I think my officers understand the fact base. I think they understand that possibly crime affects our fact base. My officers are committed. My officers are at the schools daily. We are out there trying to make sure the kids are safe. At nighttime we transition into a different deployment. My officers are committed. They're highly motivated. Our camaraderie is great. I invite you guys out at any particular time that you can come out. My officers are committed, very committed to the City of Detroit.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Inspector, please explain, if you will then, or discuss, the difference between the perception in the minds of some that they are very intense and compare to the Military verses--for example, you got down here projects and operations. You have Summer Jams, Crusaders, Safe Passage, Thriller, Robin Hood Friendship and Sacrifice. Explain those kinds of activities verses the mind set that says you all are a little too intense.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Okay and that's a great example. I'll give you an example of a sacrifice. Sacrifice was an endeavor of Gang Enforcement to whereas the data and analysis was showing that the majority of shootings were occurring on Thursday, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays between the hours of say 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. The Detroit Police Department has a Collective Bargain Agreement where the officers receive a certain amount of leave days on a regular basis. My officers voluntarily have forgone their leave days to work those particular days in which we were experiencing those high numbers of crime. So that's one example there.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Safe Passage, talk about safe passage.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Safe Passage is the Chief's intuitive to whereas we're responsible for door step to door step for the kids going back and forth to school. I've got to admit we're not doing an excellent job. It's in conjunction with a lot of the particular partners. We're doing a good job, but we're not doing an excellent job because we're still not available from the 6 o'clock to 9 o'clock hours. We're still juggling with personnel to try to cover those particular hours. But the data shows us that the majority of the incidents happen after school. So at the dismissal time where there are shootings and robberies and assaults that are taking place, my officers

are 100 percent committed. Year-to-date, like I said, we've got about 11 incidents. We've taken about 7 guns off of the students, drug arrests. And that's just as far as being visible and like I said receiving information from DPF and receiving information from parents and the administrators at the school, and acting upon that information.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you, so much.
Commissioner Okdie and then Commissioner Rivera.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: You talked about operations a little while ago. This might be a better question for you Chief Godbee.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: There's a lot of criticism raised about the Gang Squad being at Cobo Hall when there was a big crowd out there. I think everybody knows what I'm talking about. Was that indeed the case that the Gang Squad was there at Cobo Hall and why?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, sir. Absolutely. They were, and I have to say parenthetically, if not for the leadership of Inspector Brown and Gang Squad. The situation represented on television would have been exponentially worse. It was conveyed to us by the leadership in the Mayor's office their appreciation not only for Gang Squad's presence, the media took some liberty as to how this were portrayed as you saw the

Gang Squad name going through crowd. What they did not convey is the level of compassion the Gang Squad displayed. No one was injured. No one rough housed. No one removed and there was no arrests. What they did is restore order in a very, very tense situation. The fact that they had the Gang Squad on monitor is unfortunately what became news. And they took out of what was a very chaotic situation.

And if I can also say parenthetically to the Chair. A lot of leadership attributes that Inspector Brown was speaking relative to his troops, obviously he's not going to blow his own horn. That's the reason why he is the leader of the group now because of the reflection of their leader. Their dedication and commitment is part and parcel, not part and parcel, it's completely in relationship and a direct corollary to the leadership he's provided here.

Yes, we were--they were utilized for Cobo, and, again, I referenced earlier and at some point Inspector if you're given an opportunity to talk about the Strike Force aspect of his uniform contingent and his plain clothes contingent.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Well, the question was why was the Gang Squad utilized at Cobo as opposed to other units? I would think that there would be some folks that would misinterpret that. It would be like sending in the Green Buray

or some special strike force of some sort for a minor skirmish. I'm trying to think of an analogy and it might not be a great one, but I can see where it would have significant, and it did have significant public relation attached to it. What is the thinking of sending the Gang Squad at the Cobo as opposed some regular police officers.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Again, they are a strike force. And a strike force by nature is your mobile group. We can Monday-morning-quarter-back it, but we're confident that under this leadership team that when we made the decision to send this group in. Those were the resources we had available. We did not have the opportunity to send them home or for them to take the Gang Squad shirt off. So that was the resource that we had. We had to act quickly because the situation was quickly evolving into something that, all be it, was already on national news. Again, I think it's important to note that with their level of stabilization Commander Bettison was on sight, Commander Kenny Williams, Inspector Carlon, Assistant Chief Meyer. We made a tactical situation. And, yes, we can take a look backwards but under the circumstances this was the correct group and they performed the task without flaw. We do understand the perception, but given the circumstances, that was a tactical decision that we had to make.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Commissioner Rivera.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Inspector Brown, you said your officers are always identified by their clothing. How do you then infiltrated some of these gangs? I mean, I have a hard time believing that they're just going to go "oh, hey Mr. Gang Squad guy da da da da da."

INSPECTOR BROWN: Basically, as the Assistant Chief stated, our role has evolved and basically our role is more of that as a Mobile Strike Force combined with the Tactical Mobile Unit and Traffic Enforcement Unit. We're basically dispatched in the areas that would be considered egregious as far as crime activities are concerned.

As far as infiltrating gangs, I have several different entities within the Gang Squad. I have the Gang Resistance and Education and Training, which is a prevention piece, which is an education piece. I have entail officers that it will be their responsibility to infiltrate a gang. They will be in regular clothes, jeans. They will work in conjunction with the school systems, work in conjunction with the neighborhood clubs and things of that nature. As far as regular Gang Squad officers are concerned, we constitute a particular entity in the Mobile Strike Force.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Any other questions?

(No other questions were raised.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you very much, Inspector. Next on the agenda we have some appeal hearings. A request has been made by the two rejected applicants that they have a hearing, and I move that the Board of Police Commissioners conduct a closed door session pursuant to MCL 15268A of the Open Meetings Act.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Mr. Chair, if you don't mind, do we want to do that at the end of the meeting like we usually do?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I want to do it now. MCL 15268A of the Open meetings act to review a personnel matter relative to the officers involved. Board, I need approval.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Second.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: We're going into a closed door session and then we'll be back on the record.

(Board of Police Commissioners Meeting went
off the record and into a closed session at
3:30 p.m.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: The Chair requests a motion
to come back from the closed door session pursuant to MCL
15268H.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Second.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please
acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

(Board of Police Commissioners Meeting came
back on record to conclude the meeting at
4:06 p.m.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: We're back in session and
let's move ahead.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Mr. Chair?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: As Chair of the Appeals
Committee, I would like to ask Ms. Washington to approach. Can
we do that?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Ms. Washington please make a
recommendation for the two individuals who appealed their
decision.

SUPERVISING ATTORNEY WASHINGTON: Yes, sir. With
regard to the matter of Reginald Bell, again, without disclosing
the details of the case because it was held in closed door
session, my recommendation is that the appeal be denied.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Support?

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Support.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please
acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

**(Reginald Bell's Appeal regarding his
rejected application was denied.)**

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: The second one, please.

SUPERVISING ATTORNEY WASHINGTON: Commissioners,
with regard to the second rejected applicant, Ivin Midlum,
again, without disclosing the details of the case, my
recommendation is to deny the appeal in part and allow the
applicant to reapply in five years.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: Support.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please
acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: So ordered.

**(Irvin Midlum's appeal regarding the
rejected application was denied in part
allowing Mr. Midlum to reapply in five
years.)**

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you very much. Let's move quickly.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Mr. Chair, could you please indicate for the record what the vote was on that last appeal because I think it was three to one.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay. For the record P please.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: There was three yes and one no.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you. **New business.** Commissioner Rivera if you would read the new business and Commissioner Warfield if you would read the old business.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: We have a request, permission to accept an increase in the fiscal year 2009 Justice Assistance Grant. The Department of Justice awarded the Wayne County Sheriff's office of 2009 the Jag award. The Police Department and the Wayne County Sheriffs have actively operated the Jag Program for over four years. The Wayne County Sheriff's office serves as the Grant's fiscal agent and it runs from October 1st 2008 to September 2012.

As a result of the award, the Detroit Police Department will receive \$2,545,696 with no cash match. The grant is currently on fiscal year 2009 through 2010 with a of \$1,800,000. Fortunately, the Detroit Police Department has

received an increase by \$745,696. With this funding, the Detroit Police Department will continue its technology acquisition. Deputy Chief Andre Simenour of the Technology Services Bureau will serve as the project's director. I am requesting the Board's permission to accept this funding and seek approval from the Honorable Detroit City Council.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Second.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFIN: All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: So ordered.

(The request for the increase in the Justice Assistance Grant is approved.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: **Old business.**

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: The second request. The request is to accept an award from the United States Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and delinquency prevention, the division for the "We Are Here and Care Program". The United States Department of Justice of Juvenile Delinquency and Prevention has awarded the Detroit Police Department \$400,000 with no cash match for the "We Are Here and Care

Program" the award number is 2009JLFX0149. The project period is October 1st, 2009 through September 30th, 2012. The WHWCP which would be implemented at Chadkey, Finney, and Central High Schools in the City of Detroit, will seek to combat drop-out rates in these target locations. A WHWCP coordinator will be contracted within the grant and will spearhead all grant activities during the course of the three year grant.

The grant seeks to conduct after school discussion groups, provide tutoring to high school children, and provide mentoring through organizations such as Detroit Police Law Enforcement Explorers' Program, Junior Police Cadets, Think Detroit, PAL, and the Public Safety Service Academy. In addition to working with these organizations, the WHWCP will work with representatives from the State of Michigan Committee of Juvenile Justice, the Wayne County Child and Family Services, the Juvenile Assessment Center, and the Detroit Public Schools System to ensure success of the program. In approval of the grant, Sergeant Michael A. Chambers of Grants and Contracts will serve as the project director until the WCWHP project coordinator is identified and the contractual process is complete. The appropriation number for this grant is 13102. I'm requesting the Board's permission to accept this funding and seek approval of the Honorable Detroit City Council.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Second.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: It's been properly moved and seconded. All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: So ordered.

(The request for approval of the Grant for the "We Are Here and Care Program" is approved.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: The second request, please.

COMMISSIONER WARFIELD: The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, MOHSP, has awarded the Detroit Police Department a Safe Community Under-Age Drinking Grant in the amount of \$120,000 with no cash match. The grant is currently in the fiscal year 2009-2010, red book for \$100,000. The appropriation number 12867 Clause Center 372185.

Fortunately, the Detroit Police Department was awarded a \$20,000 increase. In the past, enforcement activity only occurred in the Central District. With increased funds, enforcement activities will occur in all of the department districts and precincts. The funding allows for personnel overtime wages. The goal of the Michigan Office of Highway

Safety Planning is to eliminate under-age consumption of alcohol at special events, eliminate adults furnishing alcohol to minors, reduce the number of alcohol-related-traffic crashes, and promote community awareness of problems associated with under-age drinking. This program emphasizes education, prevention, and enforcement to discourage minors from consuming and attempting to consume alcohol. Sergeant Henry of the Central District will continue to serve as the project director. I am requesting the Board's permission to accept the increase of the afore mentioned award and seek approval of the same from the Honorable Detroit City Council.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So move.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Support.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: It's been properly moved and supported. All those in favor please acknowledge by the usual sign of aye.

COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: All those opposed say nay.

(No nays were present or recorded.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: So ordered.

**(The request to accept the Safe Community
Under-Age Drinking Grant from the Michigan
Office of Highway Safety Planning is
approved.)**

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: The next meeting will be held on **November 5th, here at Police Headquarters at 3 p.m.** Now we're at the place in the program where we hear **oral communications from the audience.** I'm going to ask, as I have at the previous meetings, that all those who have questions or comments to please come forward, and to please line up at this time.

RON SCOTT: Ron Scott Detroit Coalition against Police Brutality. I would like to thank the Body for giving consideration for asking the individuals and the unit that did the presentation to remain to answer these questions. I believe it's fundamental to democracy to have those individuals who are hired by us to answer to us, if necessary.

In this particular situation, I have four questions. One, I was concerned, and I thank you Reverend, for asking for items from the audience, and I submitted that one asking about culture when AC Godbee mentioned Strike Force. Having been involved in understanding something about the Military myself, its decor and culture. I was asking a question about that specifically because of the paramental implications of the dress, the presentation, and what appears to be a very super macho attitude, and in that context, I experienced it myself and that's why I was concerned about it.

In southwest Detroit one young man was actually beaten by the Gang Squad. There's a lawsuit involved at this

point. I was told by one of the members of the Gang Squad at the time that there is a gang problem here, which I was fully aware of. But I actually had one of my members of our organization, a young man who was scared because his camera had been smashed. He was scared to actually move, leave or do anything. So within that context, I'm concerned about what appears to be the overt presentation of a culture and a presentation militaristically similar to the very gangs which they seek to diminish. You know, while the other gangs have their colors and retinue, the Gang Squad has a similar perception. And I think it would be reasonable to have young people who are interacting to have them present to ask questions that I'm now taking the liberty to ask on their behalf.

Finally, in terms of the DPS location, one time the Gang Squad was not on the premises unless they were asked to be. I was at Mumford High School and they were sitting right in front of the front door. I'd like to know what that is. And I'd like to get a clear definition of the mission of what the Gang Squad is. And I'm not interested in a PR perspective, but what the actual mission is.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Mr. Chair, I'm going to ask Inspector Brown to address Mr. Scott's concerns.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Members, again, Inspector Brown. As I heard the gentleman speak, I'm well aware of the lawsuit

that's been formulated against us. Just by his presence we have some very different information, some conflicting information on whether the camera was taken from an individual, or whether the camera was broken from an individual. Real briefly, this was during Cinco de Mayo. There were Surangos on one side of Vernor and Scott and cops on the other side. The situation was becoming very explosive. When the gang unit arrived, we just--

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Excuse me, Mr. Chair. If this is under active litigation--

INSPECTOR BROWN: I'm going to be real quick.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: No, what I'm saying is you can't speak to active litigation.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Okay.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: So if you could address just generally the mission, the uniforms, those general questions. But things that are under active litigation we don't want to talk about or we're not able to talk about.

INSPECTOR BROWN: Okay. The mission of Gang Squad, right now, currently the Chief's perspective, is Operation Safe Passage, the door-to-door safety of our school children. When we looked at the numbers of robberies and assaults and things that were taking place on campus in partnership with DPS, Wayne County, MDOC, Michigan Department of Corrections, ATF, the Marshall's Office, FBI, several entities

are involved in the Safe Passage of the students on a day-to-day basis.

If you seen us out in front of a school, particularly Mumford, maybe a week ago at the end of a Mumford game, one of the students fired shots into a crowd of about a hundred people. We arrested that individual. It's something that is needed right now so we have to support that endeavor.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: If I can add, sir. Along with mission is methodology also. And the methodology that is under Inspector Brown's leadership and the Chief's direction that we're operating under, is of actionable intelligence, information gathering and actionable intelligence. So just to see the presence of Gang Squad somewhere doesn't mean their random. We don't have the ability nor do we have the man power to be random in our patrols. So it's based on actionable intelligence which would include shootings.

If there's information relative to gang activity, because of the relationships that Inspector Brown has furnished with DPS, the lines of communication are open. Now we may have information towards a gang situation that's going to be explosive. Inspector, you may at some point, talk about the day of the press conference and the information the Gang Squad was able to obtain and absent your intervention there would have

been possibly a shooting that was going to occur near Southeast High School.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let me just say this. I don't think we need to go that far. That's positive. I got that. Let me just say this. With respect to the mission statement and your response Inspector had to deal with one of the program areas that you're doing now. I think in your return back when we talk about the history of the Gang Squad, I think we need to include the information that says this is why we were formulated in the first place. That gets to your mission and why were you even existence, and then talk about some history of the things that you've been involved in over time.

I'm going suggest this as a member of the Commission and I seek the Commission's support on this, this would involve the Office of the Chief. It will involve Mr. Scott who's here representing Coalition Against Police brutality. There might be some others that might want to get involved.

I'm dating myself age wise, but back in the day, when I was hired as a minority at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, ya'll just bare with me, there was a reluctance to have minorities work in the environment so we had what we called T Group Sessions. Commissioner Okdie might remember those

sensitivity sessions. We had role play and we had a number of things.

One of the things I want to do before I leave this Board. We may not have absolute agreement because I already said to Brother Scott you've got to do what you've got to do, and if you have a role to play, play it. But it seems like we should be absolutely to have some type, I'm not talking about a summit per say, but we need to be in the same room with the young people that you're talking and others and Gang Squad and we need to have some dialogue so we get some understanding of where we are and the impact one has on the other. So I'm going to be pushing for such a meeting with a facilitator, somebody that is a trained sociologist, psychiatrist, somebody that has a good understanding about what goes on; even the background Commissioner Okdie that you've been involved in or someone else. But we really need to get in there because I'm going to say it again. I don't find anything productive out of here's one camp and here's another camp and we don't every resolve it. That's not productive. That just means that everybody goes about feeling justified of where they are.

There are some things that need to be addressed on both sides. I'd like for us to be in a structured session where we can honestly dialogue and talk about here are the issues.

What are we going to collectively do to fix them, and I'm going push for such a meeting if that would be okay with everybody.

(Commissioners expressed agreement.)

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Mr. Scott how's that?

RON SCOTT: That's fine.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: So I'm going to be pushing for that because we've got to have that. Thank you so much.
Next.

GREGORY REGAL: Good afternoon, Board and Chief.
My name is Gregory Regal. I'm president and owner of Michigan Auto Recovery, and I'm also the police impound yard, as well as the aban yard. In the past three, four, five days. I was under the understanding that there's blitzes going on over on the Eastside with companies and another company that's not even a police impound yard, but he's doing endeavors with the Detroit Police. I haven't seen or heard them come on the Westside, but I've been on the Westside looking for work and we're sitting there going like this.

(Audience member twiddles his thumbs.)

GREGORY REGAL: There's a ton of cars out there. I'm very glad to tow for the City of Detroit and I'm very proud, and I want to do my job. I can't do my job if we can't get involved in the programs. I have two big huge gigantic yards that I can facilitate to accommodate what I do in the City and

in the neighborhoods. I'm looking forward to seeing if we can--Halloween is going to be Saturday and this is already Thursday. By now when we used to have our blitzes, we would tow 2,200-2,300 cars. We haven't towed one. I'm in front of the Board to see if I can get some direction, please, or a phone call, please. Let me help clean the streets. I want to work, please.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Let me ask you a question. What do you think that's due to? Why do you think that's happening?

GREGORY REGAL: Why were not getting any work?

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Yeah.

GREGORY REGAL: Do you want the honest-to-God truth, I'll tell you. They have aban officers. I've been at the aban yard for 22 years and plus. They've had aban officers, excellent officers at every precinct in the City. Now, they've got the aban officers--well number six doesn't have one anymore he just retired six and eight. Eight doesn't have one. They just instituted number eight and they're under the same policy as number six. By contract, from what I understand, they should have two aban officers; one for six and one for eight. We have nothing.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Let me ask you a question in a different way. If you're not getting the work, is somebody else getting the work, or are all those cars still out on the street?

GREGORY REGAL: Cars are still out on the street, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Cars are still out on the street, so nobody is getting that work?

GREGORY REGAL: No, I'm not getting any work. I have 11 trucks--

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: What about any of the other companies that you know of?

GREGORY REGAL: Well, I was under the understanding, I didn't see them, but what I heard, I was told that a Wayne County Sheriff's tower was out on the Eastside last week with another company whose an aban--

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Wait, wait a minute. Wayne County Sheriff's tower?

GREGORY REGAL: Mm-hmm.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: What are you talking about?

GREGORY REGAL: Dick Martin towing, sir. He was towing our aban--

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Are they a Detroit tower?

GREGORY REGAL: He is not a Detroit tower, sir. He's tows for the Wayne County Sheriff.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Are you saying that the Detroit towers are not getting the work because a tower from outside the City is getting the work?

GREGORY REGAL: Yes, sir. And I don't understand why they're involved that unless there's a program that involves him but--

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Hold on. Okay. With all the difficulties that we're having with regards to the towers--Chief Godbee, do you know of this occurring? Is there a Martin's towing that's towing cars within the City that works primarily for the Sheriff's Department?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: He does not work for the Chief. There are two initiatives, which from that initiative, there have been 1,500 tows. All of those have been completely Detroit authorized towers. The Chief has a task force and has the Wayne County Sheriff embedded, and within that task force, there have been 86 tows period. 51 of those tows have been handled by one of the Wayne County authorized towers. And that's within the construct of a task force.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: May I say something?

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Can I finish please?

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Well it might answer your question.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: I would like to ask the Chief some questions if you don't mind. You know, Chief, I have to tell you, it's more than a little disturbing to me. Did we ever do this before?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Within the construct of a task force, yes.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: How long ago did we do this?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: I'll bring back specifics. I don't have specifics with me, but within the construct of a task force, we can't dictate to other agencies what towers they use. So within the construct of a task force you're working with multiple jurisdictions and multiple agencies. You share and utilize different resources available for a task force. So within the construct of a task force, which was convened September 12th, there have been 86 tows relative to that task force. Of the 86, 51 were handled by a Wayne County tower. The Detroit specific issues are handled directly by Detroit authorized towers.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Here's my problem, if you don't mind, with regards to the task force and the tows being done by a company outside of the City of Detroit. First of all, are there any revenues coming into the City coffers from that company?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: They're not coming in from the other tows either. The \$75 tow goes to the tower.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Okay. So there's no revenues coming in to the City of Detroit from that company, that's the answer to the question. Secondly, I have an issue with companies in the City of Detroit that are going under because of the bad economy that we have and if we're giving work to towers outside of the City of Detroit, it seems to me that it is counter productive with regards to what the Mayor is trying to do to encourage business in the City of Detroit. Why on Earth would we be trying to give business to another company outside of the City of Detroit when there's companies inside the City of Detroit going out of business? We don't get taxes on that money? It doesn't make sense to me, Chief. Is there anything we can do to make sure that this doesn't happen, that we can get these towers within the City of Detroit to have that business?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Again out of all those tows, less than half a percent, less than half a percent of 1,600 tows went to a tower that was not a Detroit authorized tower. And within the construct of a task force, I can't make that commitment on behalf of another agency.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Does the department enter into the agreement with the task force to allow this tower from outside the City to have this work? Was there a contract signed?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: There's no contract signed.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let me ask this.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: You know, I'm more than a little frustrated.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Let me ask the same question in another way. Understanding clearly what you said with respect to task forces. What is the process for contracts or agreements with a multi-agency task force which brings in people from outside the City of Detroit? What is on your relationship? Is it contractual? How do we get into that task force where tows need to be made where anybody says I'm going to use tow company A, B, or C? How did that occur? Or is it just an understanding that when it's a multi-agency task force that's towing that we'll just defer to the other agency? Just spend a little time explaining how that works. And you said this is not precedent setting? We've done this before?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: We've done this before.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay. Well, explain that process.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: It depends on the nature of the task force and how formalized the task force is and what level of services are being rendered. Special task forces are so intricate that they're in a governmental agreement that goes

about to set out line by line the task, equipment sharing, resource share, and things of that nature. Some of your other task forces that are not as formal go by what resources are available depending on the task force and what's being performed.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Can I follow up?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Yes, you can.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Of what benefit is the task force to the City of Detroit? What benefit do we get out of it? What is it that the City of Detroit gets for participating with the task force? What is our benefit?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: We get additional officers at no cost to the City of Detroit.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Officers?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, sworn law enforcement officers working within the construct of the mission of the task force. When you work inter-jurisdictionally and you bring in folks--for instance a Wayne County Sheriff has jurisdiction in Detroit as a sworn person because Detroit is within the corporate boundaries of Wayne County - so you get the benefit of the officers. You get the law enforcement advantage without the cost to the City, and with the resource challenges that we have within the City, when we have a chance to work collaboratively with other law enforcement agencies, we have to leverage that.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: How long ago did we enter into this task force agreement with regards to towing?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Well the one being referenced specifically by the gentleman at the podium, the inception date is September 12th.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Just a few weeks ago.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Over a month.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Over a month ago. Did that company forward anything to the Police Commission with regards to the towing aspect of it?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: No, sir.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: So this is the first we've heard of it.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, this is the first time it's been raised.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: And do we have a committee set up to review the entire towing situation, which includes members of this Police Commission, as well as the administration within the department?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Yes, you do.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Yeah. And did it come up there at the committee?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: No.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: It was brought to my attention.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: In a formal sense or did somebody just tell you?

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: No, I was called in after.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Well, that's not the way business--from where I come from that's not how business is done. We have a committee, a formal structure, by which we are to look at the towing, the totality of the towing issue, and our having casual conversations that are not being incorporated into the business of the committee. This Board is not being informed of what's going on with this committee. I just received a draft proposal with regards to overhauling, the entire process with regards to towing that, I have to tell you, I have many issues and many questions about. And I have to tell you this part where we're actually farming out business to businesses outside of the City of Detroit to me, as a person that's going all around the City talking about how we have to bring business back to the City of Detroit, this is absolutely disgusting to me.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I'm going to just bring this to a close and let's do this. Clearly, with respect to the policy that Commissioner Okdie is speaking to, we need to make sure that's addressed as we go forward. I need to have a little bit better understanding of how the process works. I heard what

you said. I'm also in support of my colleague, of course, hindsight is always 20/20. It probably would have been better if that was brought before at least the steering committee, the special task force for review or to this Board so that we at least have an understanding. It may not be as conspiratorial or as bad as it seems. We need to take a look at it and we will do that.

GREGORY REGAL: If I could, in ending our conversation. I didn't come up here to make a gripe. I have come to ask for a plea if I can participate in programs that are with the City of Detroit. I am a Detroit tower.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Mr. Regal we've got two separate issues. What you really frankly identified is really the symptom to a larger problem and the larger problem is what we have talked about that I'm going to be addressing pretty soon of how work is distributed, who gets it, etc. This is, to me, a symptom to a larger problem of how we go about doing this.

GREGORY REGAL: If I could, out of our 22 plus companies that we have for the City of Detroit, which are excellent companies, okay. I'm not here to put a feather in nobody's cap. I'm here saying that the tow companies of the City of Detroit, through their program, has allowed for us to be towers for them that we all absolutely love doing it. There's no

need to change anything. You have everything in place. All you have to do is allow us to do our jobs again.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I've got you. I've let you go way over four minutes. I've got it. Thank you so much.

GREGORY REGAL: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Next.

JULIE SEMMA: Julie Semma, Seven D's Towing. I'm also here not to make a complaint, but I'm actually here to state the facts that are going on, and here we are again coming before you guys for some help and you guys stated more than one time in the last year and a half that if things are going to change they have to come before the Board. And this has been mentioned on 4th of July and this has been mentioned for certain details and again it passes by and it gets pushed by and here we are just waiting for tows and another company among several companies that are here today have been hurt by that. So I don't know what you guys are planning on doing other than we're going to regroup and regroup.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I'm going to cut you off and I'm going to answer the question for you. And obviously please no disrespect. I stated for the record, I believe the record will show that on October the 8th I stated that in 30 days I was going to have for you the findings and where we're going to go and what we're going to be doing and what we're proposing. I can

promise you that 30 days from October the 8th will be the closest meeting to that date and I think that meeting will be November the 10th?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: That would be November 5th.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: That's less than 30 days.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GOSS: Then it would be November 12th.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: November 12th at that meeting I'm going to tell you what our findings are and specifically what we're planning to do about them. I'm going to alert you now. It probably won't satisfy every issue but I can also promise you this will be more than any previous Commission has ever done. So on November the 12th we will be talking about specifics; here's where we're going, here what we're going to do, and here's what we've put in place, okay.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Another question. Is this going to be a pattern of other companies coming in to work with the Detroit towers or is this a one time thing or how is this going to work out?

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Find out on the 12th.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I don't want anybody to think--if my tone sounds harsh, I don't mean that. I'm telling

you that I'm just as frustrated as you. But we've got to get it done and it takes time to get it done. November 12th.

EDWARD MOORE: Good afternoon to the Chair, the Board, and the Assistant Chief. My name is Edward Moore. I'm the liaison of the Honorable Kwame Kenyatta, our Detroit City Councilman. Warm greetings from his office. With the challenges we have in our city, the councilman is a team player. He does not want to use his office to step on anybody's toes and get in front. So he's asking the Board and the Assistant Chief to--anything that his office can do to support the issues of the City, he is willing to sit down with the Assistant Chief and the Board or with Chief Evans and the Board. So I come to this meeting and I'm almost saying the same thing. No one here at this table has ever responded.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Yes, I did.

EDWARD MOORE: Yes, you did. But I'm talking about the total Board. But what he's asking--he's a team player. Yes, he has some points that he would like to make that can come from his office. Then that's not his place. He's a team player and being a team player, he's waiting for the Board and also the Chief and Assistant Chief to let him know where he can fit in.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you, Mr. Moore. I appreciate you. Everyone that is going to speak should be standing in line.

TIJUANA MORRIS: Good afternoon, Commissioners and Assistant Chief Godbee. My name is Tijuana Morris, Fight for Your Rights Investigator, and I'm a member of the Coalition against Police Brutality. Everyone is well aware that the Coalition is on the forefront of trying to find common ground between the citizens and the police department. As the majority of you know, I'm a retired police officer. I would like to thank Commissioner Griffin for inviting the Coalition to help with doing some conflict resolution. I, for one, would like to step forward to volunteer my services as well from what I know from the streets to the police. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you.

PHYLLIS HERNANDEZ: Phyllis Hernandez, Casino Towing. Commissioners, actually Commissioner Griffin, it was September 17th that you told me to give you 30 days and then you would tell me what was going on. I understand that you've finally given me--

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: No, stop.

PHYLLIS HERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: What did the record show?

SUPERVISING ATTORNEY WASHINGTON: It was October 8th.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: And that's on the record?

SUPERVISNG ATTORNEY WASHINGTON: Yes, it is in the minutes.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: That's in the minutes, okay.

PHYLLIS HERNANDEZ: Well, that's where I got my date from, but that's okay--

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Right, I'm telling you. I know that you raised it at the last meeting and I'm going to--I'm going to let you finish talking. Go ahead.

PHYLLIS HERNANDEZ: Thank you. I completely disagree with--I believe his name is Paul. I believe the towing should be completely reengineered. I appreciate all the time and effort that you've put into it since in the previous situation there was no room for any new towers. And a question, and maybe you can come back with these numbers. I'm just curious from the past two days with the towing blitz exactly how many Detroit Companies were involved and exactly what the numbers were of our towed total verses any other towing company. I think that would be interesting information for you.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: And I can supply that next week.

PHYLLIS HERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you.

JERRY PARKER: Jerry Parker, I'm the owner of Nationwide Towing. I'm in the Eastern District where they were doing the tows at. My company was not asked to do the tows. When

the tows go to Highland Park where Martin's is located at, those cars are auctioned off. Once those cars are auctioned off what happened to the \$1,000 cap on the store? Does the City get that money?

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: I don't know. Who can address that?

JERRY PARKER: Well, at least that's what happens here in Detroit when it goes over cap the City gets the rest of the money.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: I don't know what happens in other districts. I just know what happens in ours.

JEERY PARKER: That's what I'm saying. Are the cars allowed to be towed outside of the City?

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: Detroit is not allowed to tow outside of the City. I can't speak for other jurisdictions.

JERRY PARKER: Right. I've been on since '92. When we had outside companies to come in, those cars were stored in the City, but they were stored outside the City.

COMMISSIONER RIVERA: We can't tell them where to store their vehicles because that's not our jurisdiction. All Detroit tows are stored in Detroit.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Again I want to state for the record. The Wayne County Officer utilized a Wayne County authorized tow. We can not tell them where to store their

vehicle or what tower to use. We can't--absent some type of extraordinary agreement, we can't tell them where to tow a vehicle. Detroit authorized tows follow the Detroit process.

JERRY PARKER: Right, okay.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Wait, I don't know if we resolved anything. Come back Mr. Parker. What is your question?

JERRY PARKER: Normally, when a car is towed in the City, it is stored in the City. Okay. With an outside force coming in storing--okay what they only come in when we don't have enough towers to do the job? That's my question.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: If you don't mind, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Sure, Commissioner. Correct me if I'm wrong, okay. The problem here is that everyone knows that that money is made by the storage fees and the reselling of the vehicle or junking the vehicle; am I correct?

JERRY PARKER: Right.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: Right. So the towing fees in and of themselves are pennies. The real money is made through storage and the reselling of vehicles that are not claimed. So that's where the concern lays, Mr. Chair. If they take the vehicles outside of the City, then the towers in the City are not making money. That's the bottom line. It's not how much they get off of each tow. Each tow is not much at all. And that's his concern.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Okay.

JERRY PARKER: Thank you.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Mr. Chair, DC Moore has a point that he would like to make.

DEPUTY CHIEF MOORE: Good afternoon. Deputy Chief Moore, Patrol Operations. You failed to make a distinction between the City authorized towers, which we have several of who we use in a rotating process opposed to private property towers. We work with an agreement with businesses around the City to tow from their property and they, themselves, establish rates anywhere from \$200-\$1,000 I think the State law will allow. Those vehicles are not required to be stored any place other than those towers' lots. Yes, some of those businesses are outside of the corporate limit, but we're not engaged in that process. That's a private property tow. And you're absolutely right, Board Member Okdie. It is the storage fees, but again that's up to the private company that's engaged in a private property tow. We, as the City of Detroit, do not benefit one dollar, as indicated by AC earlier.

COMMISSIONER OKDIE: I understand that, but my concern is and that the City is making money for tows inside the city, outside the city, associated with, not associated with, authorized and not authorized, but businesses in this city help the City by paying taxes, by employing people. That's the issue,

for me. I get that everywhere, I do. How are you going to bring more businesses into the City. And I'm going to tell you, if we're sending business outside of the City, we're hurting ourselves. That's the problem.

DEPUTY CHIEF MOORE: Absolutely. And I would agree. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Thank you. Yes, sir.

ANTHONY DORSEY: My name is Anthony Dorsey and I represent the Organization to Overcome Difficulties in our Youth. We have been--Chief Godbee knows me, this young man knows me, and I think Commander Moore knows of me. We have been dealing with the youth in the community for the last year. We also had a tour where we had over 50 entertainers from all across the country as well as locally to put in their time to do shows as well as to do different forums. And we pulled it last year because of some difficult problems that we were dealing with within the department. When we spoke with Lieutenant Brown today he said that that was something that we needed to have and we agreed and I made the phone call a little while ago that we would sit down with different schools and conduct different forums to try and combat the different gang problems that we're having, particularly with the junior high school members. That's where the problems are. Last Friday we had an incident where all the parents were calling all the mentors and they were pulling

their kids from the school that's known as Fisher now, but it used to be known as Howell. They were pulling kids because you have two or three gangs in that particular area and they were on Facebook promoting that they were going to do something last Friday. So, of course all the mentors were there, Gang Squad was there DPS Security Police and DPS Gang Squad was there. Some of the kids up there ran up on the Gang Squad members as if they were regular students. The problem that we're having in the community is there's no respect for a lot of the officers that come through there whether they're uniformed or not. And when Dr. Barren was Chief, this is one of the issues that he pushed toward us. He said in order to get this respect back we need to go back in there without uniforms on and talk to the kids, and we agreed to do that. And today we agreed to work with Inspector Brown. We call him Preacher. We agreed to do that and anybody that has an issue that they would like to work with today or any other church that they're working with, we have no problem with meeting with them.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Mr. Dorsey, I want to suggest this to you, and that's great. We have a number of initiates like that all around the City. I don't know if you've ever worked with a Mr. Benny White. He's appointed by the Mayor. He's the youth advocate and I need you to get with him, okay. I don't have his card or number with me, but somebody will make sure you

get that because he is leading a number of initiatives similar to yours. He has a group called ATOM that I think you need to be involved in and it brings people together like yourself. I made a presentation to the Mayor today at the Clergy Roundtable dealing with just initiatives like you're talking about. Any of those are going on but we're not connected in a way where we can use each other's resources and to support one another. I applaud what you're doing, but I would like for you to get in touch with Mr. Benny White because he can provide other people like yourself that have a relationship with young people, that know how to talk to them, know how to reach them and so the things that you're doing you're not by yourself. If you would do that, that would be great. He would love to hear from you. I want you to keep doing what you're doing. Thank you. Please make sure that Mr. Dorsey gets that. Okay.

BOBBY: Hello. I'm another tower. My name is Bobby from Bobby's towing. I've been towing for the City of Detroit for over 20 years. My question is why do tow companies have police radios communicating with the officers?

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: Sir, if that's happening, I need to get with you and find out who that is because they should not be doing that. There is a strict tow rotation that should be followed and if it's not being followed then I need to be aware of that.

BOBBY: Okay.

ASSISTANT CHIEF GODBEE: I'll talk to you.

CHAIRPERSON GRIFFIN: Get with him before you leave today. Alright thank you very much. Any other people from the community. If not, I thank all of you for your patience and for your input. Meeting adjourned.

(Meeting is adjourned at 4:52 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb